AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Withdrawn)

5. (Withdrawn)

6. (Withdrawn)

7. (Currently amended) The peptide ~~peptides or peptide derivatives~~ according to claim 17 ~~1~~, wherein R_N represents –H or an amino protective group and R_c represents –OH or a carboxyl protective group.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (New) An isolated or purified peptide selected from the group consisting of:

R_N - Ala Arg Ala Lys Lys Asp Glu Leu Arg Arg Lys Met Met Tyr Met- R_C (SEQ ID No. 2).

R_N - Asp Glu Leu Arg Arg Lys Met Met Tyr Met- R_C (SEQ ID No. 3)

R_N - Glu Leu Arg Arg Lys Met Met Tyr Met- R_C (SEQ ID No. 9)

R_N - Asp Glu Leu Arg Arg Lys Met Met Tyr - R_C (SEQ ID No. 10),

and

derivatives of R_N - Ala Arg Ala Lys Lys Asp Glu Leu Arg Arg Lys Met Met Tyr

Met- R_C (SEQ ID No. 2) having a substitution of one, two or three amino acids; wherein R_N represents -H or an amino protective group, or at least one further amino acid outside the peptide or peptide derivative; R_C represents -OH or a carboxy protective group, or at least one further amino acid outside the peptide or peptide derivative; and said peptide has the ability to induce the production of interferon-y or TNF--α in CD8+ T cells.

18. (New) The peptide according to claim 17 having the sequence

R_N - Ala Arg Ala Lys Lys Asp Glu Leu Arg Arg Lys Met Met Tyr Met- R_C (SEQ ID No. 2),

R_N - Asp Glu Leu Arg Arg Lys Met Met Tyr Met- R_C (SEQ ID No. 3),

R_N - Glu Leu Arg Arg Lys Met Met Tyr Met- R_C (SEQ ID No. 9), or

R_N - Asp Glu Leu Arg Arg Lys Met Met Tyr - R_C (SEQ ID No. 10).

19. (New) The peptide according to claim 17, wherein R_N represents –H or an acyl group and R_c represents –OH or an amino group.

20. (New) The peptide according to claim 19, wherein R_N represents -H and R_C represents –OH.

21. (New) Method for identifying a cellular immune system response against HCMV, said method comprising:

a) incubating T-cells with a peptide according to claim 17; and

b) detecting whether incubation has resulted in the production of interferon-γ or TNF-α in $CD8^+$ T cells, wherein production of interferon-γ or TNF-α in the $CD8^+$ T cells identifies a cellular immune system response against HCMV.

22. (New) Method for quantifying a response of the cellular immune system against HCMV, said method comprising:

a) incubating T-cells with a peptide according to claim 17; and

b) detecting the number of $CD8^+$ T cells that have been induced to produce interferon-γ or TNF-α , wherein the number of induced $CD8^+$ T cells quantifies a cellular immune system response against HCMV.

23. (New) An isolated or purified DNA which codes for a peptide according to claim 17.

24. (New) A plasmid or vector comprising a DNA according to claim 23.